

*We conserve, sustain and connect  
natural areas, lands and waters that  
make the places we live special*



# Nature Near You

NEWS AND INFORMATION ABOUT LAND  
CONSERVATION WITHIN THE BELLE, CLINTON,  
FLINT, HURON, ROUGE AND SHIAWASSEE RIVER  
WATERSHEDS IN SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN

APRIL 2009  
VOLUME 4, ISSUE 2

"Nature Near You" is published for the members and  
partners of Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy

## LOTS TO DO! SIX RIVERS SPRING EVENTS

### Annual Meeting

**May 4, 2009**

Metrobeach Metropark  
Harrison Township

This is our time to come together and share the past year's accomplishments and celebrate our partnerships in the community. This year we are highlighting land conservation in Macomb County. Our featured speaker is John Austin, Director of the Brookings Institution Great Lakes Economic Initiative. You will also enjoy music, refreshments, and have a chance to meet our board, staff, sponsors, members, and lots of new friends.

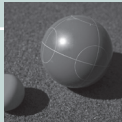


### Detroit Lions Tony Filippis Memorial Bocce Tournament

**May 13, 2009**

Palazzo di Bocce  
Orion Township

Every year this terrific evening with celebrities, delicious food and big prizes at the beautiful Palazzo di Bocce in Orion Township benefits many Southeast Michigan charities, including Six Rivers. This year's honorary chairmen will be new Detroit Lions' head coach Jim Schwartz, Tony Battaglia, A.J. Filippis and former Lion Mike Utley. For ticket information, go to [www.palazzodibocce.com](http://www.palazzodibocce.com).



### Wildflowers in the Forested Floodplain

**May 16, 2009**

Berberian Woods  
Southfield

Explore Berberian Woods, a special Rouge River floodplain preserve, with Six Rivers. We'll hit the trail to identify the native spring wildflowers and discuss how to protect them from a woodland invasive plant invader: garlic mustard. As we walk through the park, we will assist in the invasive plant management by pulling garlic mustard plants and see the differences that management can make. There is a \$30 fee for this workshop, provided by the Headwaters Cluster. Register online at [www.stewardshipnetwork.org](http://www.stewardshipnetwork.org).



### Picnic in the Prairie

**May 23, 2009**

Golden Preserve for Biological Diversity  
Springfield Township

This elegant family gathering at the Golden Preserve for Biological Diversity provides a rare glimpse of masses of blooming lupines in the prairie. This year features a geological tour by Cranbrook Institute geologist John Zawiskie. For ticket information, go to [www.sixrivers.org](http://www.sixrivers.org) and click on "Events".



### Spring Native Plant Festival

**June 7, 2009**

Paint Creek Cider Mill  
Oakland Township

We are celebrating Michigan's native plants at the Paint Creek Cider Mill. High quality native plants will be available for sale, with experts on hand to answer questions. Kids activities and workshops will be offered throughout the day.



### Annual Butterfly Count

**June 27, 2009**

Golden Preserve for Biological Diversity  
Springfield Township

Join Six Rivers staff and Oakland County Parks staff to help count butterfly populations at these two locations. This field work is part of a nationwide survey done by the North American Butterfly Association. Butterfly counts reveal important information about the geographical distribution and populations of area butterflies. This program is fun for the whole family! Join us at either one or both sites and dress for being outdoors. Register online at [www.stewardshipnetwork.org](http://www.stewardshipnetwork.org).



### Whole Foods

**June 10, 2009**

Community Support Day for Six Rivers

Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy has been selected by Whole Foods Market in Oakland County for a Community Support Day. Shop at any of the Oakland County stores on this day (Rochester, Troy, and West Bloomfield) and Six Rivers will receive 5% of the net sales.



For up-to-the-minute event information go to [www.sixriversrlc.org](http://www.sixriversrlc.org) and click on "Events".

# EXPLORING OUR NEW SHORES:

## *Six Rivers and the Great Lakes*

### **Six Rivers Annual Meeting Co-Sponsored by Macomb County Government**

**METRO BEACH METROPARK IN HARRISON TOWNSHIP  
MAY 4, 2009 – 6:30 PM**

Welcome to our first Annual Meeting as Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy! Last year, Macomb Land Conservancy joined their service area with Oakland Land Conservancy – which was followed by our re-naming as Six Rivers. The Six Rivers of our name – the Belle, Clinton, Flint, Huron, Rouge and Shiawassee River watersheds – all flow into the Great Lakes, which collectively contains 20% of the world's freshwater supply. We hope you will join us on the shores of Lake St. Clair as we take this time to celebrate our new partnerships and look forward to the exciting future opportunities to conserve land in the Great Lakes region in Macomb, Oakland, Lapeer and Genesee Counties.

We invite you to attend our upcoming Annual Meeting that is co-sponsored by Macomb County Government and will take place Monday, May 4, at the beautiful Metro Beach Activities Center. There will be plenty of time for socializing and networking as well as to view the exhibits of our Nature Suite Sponsors, all of whom are involved in greening the business landscape in Southeast Michigan. Live music will add ambiance as we enjoy delicious snacks provided by Whole Foods Market.

We will celebrate our partnership with the County of Macomb and the establishment of a new 34-acre conservation easement in Clinton Township – The James B. and Ann V. Nicholson Nature Center and Floodplain Conservation Easement.

Our featured speaker is John Austin, Director of the Great Lakes Economic Initiative for the Brookings Institution and Vice President of the Michigan State Board of Education. Mr. Austin has authored several path-breaking reports on the economic vitality of Michigan and the Great Lakes states, including "Healthy Waters, Strong Economy: The Benefits of Restoring the Great Lakes Ecosystem." He also co-authored the influential report "Revitalizing Michigan Cities", which led to Governor Granholm's "Cool Cities" initiative.

Reservations are required – please call (248) 601-2816 ext. 462 or email [dfolland@sixriversrlc.org](mailto:dfolland@sixriversrlc.org) or fill out the reply form on the opposite side.

There is no required fee for this meeting. However, we do ask for a donation \$10 or more per person, payable at the door, to help us cover parking and other costs.

Monday, May 4, 2009  
Activities Center  
Metro Beach Metropark  
31300 Metropolitan Parkway  
Harrison Township, Michigan

See agenda and map on back



SIX RIVERS ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA  
MONDAY, MAY 4, 2009

6:30 – 7:00  
Music, socializing, networking, Nature Suite exhibits, and refreshments

7:00 – 7:15  
Welcome from Six Rivers and Macomb County  
Paul Gielegghem, Chair, Macomb County Board of Commissioners  
Gail Danto, Six Rivers President

7:15 – 7:30  
James B. and Ann V. Nicholson Nature Center and Floodplain Conservation Easement  
Donna Folland, Six Rivers Executive Director  
Gerard Santoro, Macomb County Senior Planner  
James B. and Ann V. Nicholson

7:30 – 7:40  
Short business meeting and election of Six Rivers Trustees  
Gail Danto, Six Rivers President  
John Tatum, Six Rivers Secretary

7:40  
The Role of Water in Michigan Economy  
John C. Austin, Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution,  
Director of the Great Lakes Economic Initiative for Brookings  
Followed by discussion

Activities Center, Metro Beach Metropark  
31300 Metropolitan Parkway, Harrison Township, Michigan



Spring Native Plant Festival

The annual Spring Native Plant Sale has morphed into the Spring Native Plant Festival to be held at the Paint Creek Cider Mill on Sunday, June 7, 2009! Please join Six Rivers and our partners, Oakland Township Parks and Recreation and the Headwaters Cluster in a celebration of native plants and our wonderful southeast Michigan ecosystems.

At the Festival you will learn about our regional native plant growers, explore the use of native plants in your yard and garden and select from a large assortment of flowers, grasses, ferns and shrubs for your spring planting. We are offering plants that have been exclusively chosen because they evolved and adapted to our local environment. Experience sales people will be available to help you select the plants best suited to your yard - whether dry or moist, sunny or shady. Bring your whole family to this great event!

We will offer short workshops throughout the day about using native plants in your garden, container gardening with natives, ecological education for kids through Earth Partnership for Schools program, how to participate in local restoration efforts through the Stewardship Network Clusters, and more. Conservancy staff will lead walks along the adjacent Paint Creek Trail to highlight restoration and the use of native plants along the trail. Our friends from Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve will help you and your family stencil t-shirts with prairie plants. Whole Foods Market will be at the Festival with refreshments and a fun children’s program!

The Conservancy’s ever popular Bird and Butterfly Gardens are available for pre-order - \$64 for 32 plants selected for average to dry or average to moist areas. Use the order form below or call (248) 601-2816.



Nature Suite Business Sponsorship Program

Our many events are brought to you thanks to the support of our business sponsors who contribute to the Nature Suite sponsorship program. What a great way to increase your visibility to the community as an environmentally friendly company! Our Nature Suite sponsors are aligning their resources with their highest ideals and are making a statement about who they are and what they value. We invite business owners to become Nature Suite sponsors and invest in the quality of life in Southeast Michigan. To find out how your business can become a Nature Suite sponsor, call executive director Donna Folland at (248) 601-2816.

Nature Suite Sponsors



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michigandesign.com



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yyarchitects.com



Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy  
PO Box 80902  
Rochester, Michigan 48308-0902



**CONTACT US**

Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy  
PO Box 80902  
Rochester, Michigan 48308-0902  
248-601-2816  
dfolland@sixriversrlc.org  
www.sixriversrlc.org

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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James Lloyd, Highland Township  
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John L. Tatum, Bloomfield Township  
Secretary  
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Donna Folland, Executive Director  
Susanne Greenlee, Conservation Scientist  
Heather Hufstutler, Stewardship Director

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Ed Coe, Bloomfield Township  
Anthony Feldhus, Romeo  
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Lorna McEwen, West Bloomfield  
Art Roffey, Ph.D., Bloomfield Township

Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible as provided by law.  
Graphic Design: Celeste Pollman

**DONATION AND ORDER FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Bird and Butterfly Gardens**

Garden Type	Price	Quantity	Total
Average to Dry	\$64	_____	_____
Average to Moist	\$64	_____	_____
<b>Total Purchase: \$</b>		_____	_____

**Conservancy Membership**

☐ \$1,000   ☐ \$500   ☐ \$250   ☐ \$100   ☐ \$50  
☐ \$30   ☐ \$15 (senior or student membership)  
☐ Other Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ This is a pledge payable on \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

☐ You may list my name as a contributor to the Conservancy  
☐ I would like to remain anonymous (If no box is checked, your name will be listed)  
I have enclosed my check of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ payable to Six Rivers R.L.C.

I am paying by credit card. Check one: ☐Visa   ☐MasterCard  
Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Meeting:** Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ tickets for me to the Annual Meeting on May 4. (You will be contacted by phone or email to confirm.)

**Thank you very much for your gift.** All donors of \$30 or more (\$15 for seniors and students) receive a one-year renewable membership to the Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy, which includes a subscription to **Nature Near You**. Please send this form with your contribution to:

**Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy**  
PO Box 80902  
Rochester, Michigan 48308-0902

Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization.  
Your contribution is tax-deductible as provided by law.